

In the Claims

1-27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently amended) A method for stimulating the proliferation of ~~NK~~ natural killer (NK) cells which comprises contacting NK cells with an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition ~~according to claim 16~~ comprising an anti-NK cell receptor (NCR) antibody and a cytokine, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, said antibody(ies) and cytokine(s) being administered together or separately to a subject in an amount effective to stimulate the proliferation of NK cells.

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 28, wherein one or several injections of an effective amount of said composition occurs for 5-10 days and said cytokine(s) being first injected on the same day as the first injection of antibodies.

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29, comprising one or two injections/day of cytokine(s) by subcutaneous injection.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 28, wherein said cytokine is IL-2 and is injected subcutaneously at daily doses below 1 million units/m² for 5 to 10 days.

32. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein said cytokine is an interleukin.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein said interleukin is selected from the group consisting of IL2, IL12, IL15, IL21 and combinations thereof.

34. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein said antibody(ies) is an anti-NKp30 antibody or anti-NKp46 antibody, a combination of both anti-NKp30 antibody and anti-NKp46 antibody, or antigen binding fragments thereof.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein said antibody(ies) are used in admixture with IL2.

36. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein said anti-NKp30 antibodies are isolated antibodies or antigen binding fragments thereof which specifically bind to a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 4, and SEQ ID NO: 5.

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein said antibodies specifically bind to a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 1.

38. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein said anti-NKp30 antibodies, anti-NKp46 antibodies or combinations thereof are monoclonal antibodies, affinity, chimerized, humanized antibodies or antibodies of human origin.

39. (New) The method of claim 38, wherein said anti-NKp30 monoclonal antibody is produced by hybridoma strain 1-2576.

40. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein said anti-NCR antibodies comprise antibody fragments, said fragments being essentially Fab, F(ab')₂, and Fv fragments and CDR grafted humanized monoclonal antibodies.

41. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein said composition is in the form of tablets, powders, pastes, patches, granules, microgranules, nanoparticules, colloid solutions, aqueous solutions, injectable solutions, sprays, or liposomes.

42. (New) The method of claim 28, comprising from 1 ng to 100mg/kg (body weight) of antibodies, and lower than 1 million units/square meters/day of cytokine(s).